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THE EBI FAMILY
THE EBIE FAMILY

of Stark County, Ohio

Progeny of

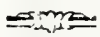
THEODORUS EBY

The Swiss Mennonite Pioneer

of

LANCASTER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA Pa.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



THE EBY FAMILY BULLETIN

Number One

By FRANKLIN STANTON ABY, M. D.

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

1923

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1625003

THE EBI FAMILY AND THE EBIE FAMILY OF STARK COUNTY, OHIO, THE PROGENY OF THEODORUS EBY

The identification of the EBI FAMILY and the EBIE FAMILY of Ohio, at the present date, 1923, recognized as two distinct American families, as descended from THEODORUS EBY, the pioneer Swiss Mennonite of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, is based primarily upon the evidence discovered on the grave stones in the cemetery of the Church of the Brethren, Nemishillen Township, Stark County, Ohio.

This evidence articulates with the record of DAVID EBY, youngest son of THEODORUS EBY, as given in History of the Eby Family, 1889, by PROFESSOR EZRA EBY, of Berlin, now Kitchener, Ontario, Canada, and the evidence of the gravestone and that of the History of the EBY FAMILY articulates with the Record of the EBIE FAMILY, by GEORGE EBIE, of Olney, Illinois.

This is not a peculiar or isolated instance of change of spelling of Swiss and German family names of the pioneers of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. It is but one of hundreds of cases where families now residing in the Mississippi Valley or on the Pacific Coast have lost all connection with their European origin, the family name has been changed, family traditions have become dim or obliterated, through the struggle of the western pioneers with their environment.

While investigating another problem, the writer stumbled upon this evidence of the grave stones. Comparing this evidence with that of the history of the EBY FAMILY and the Record of the EBIE FAMILY, the result is the present contribution to the knowledge and geographical distribution of the Swiss blood of Lancaster County. Pennsylvania.

Interviewing various members of the EBY FAMILY, EBI FAMILY, and EBIE FAMILY, in the city of Canton, and in STARK COUNTY, OHIO, the writer found a very vague impression that there was some connection between these three American families. But whether the EBI FAMILY was a branch of the EBIE FAMILY, or vice versa, or whether the EBI FAMILY was a branch of either the EBY or EBIE FAMILIES, or vice versa, no one seemed to know. Which was the main stem and which was the branch, and who was the head of the various families, seemed lost in the dim and hazy past. Tradition there was none, even furnishing a clew.

The Court House records in CANTON, OHIO, began to throw some light on the problem, but not sufficient for the solution.

Family Bibles did not yield up the information. The Record of the EBIE FAMILY, by GEORGE EBIE, of OLNEY, ILL., began with PETER EBIE (1787-1853), and no mention of either EBY FAMILY or EBI FAMILY, was made in this publication. Here was a distinct American family in STARK COUNTY, OHIO, apparently cut off, not only from its European origin, but from its American predecessor, and no biography of PETER EBIE (1787-1853) to furnish a clue. The only possible source of information seemed to be the grave stones of STARK COUNTY, OHIO. A search of the grave yards revealed in the CEMETERY OF THE CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN, NEMISHILLEN TOWNSHIP, STARK COUNTY, OHIO, the grave stone of PETER EBIE, (1787-1853), and a few feet away was the grave stone of DAVID DAVIS EBI (1742-1823). Consulting the HISTORY OF THE EBY FAMILY, 1889—by EZRA EBY, the exact connection between the parent stem, the EBY FAMILY OF LANCASTER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, the EBI FAMILY OF STARK COUNTY, OHIO, as a branch of the EBY FAMILY, and the EBIE FAMILY OF STARK COUNTY, OHIO, as a branch of the EBI FAMILY, was established.

From a historical standpoint, the cemetery above mentioned is unique and highly interesting for these reasons. In this cemetery are buried two men, both agnate descendents of the Swiss Mennonite Pioneer, THEODORUS EBY, of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. Both these men are founders, patriarchs, or first ancestors of distinct though related American families. Though they were father and son, and agnate descendents of THEODORUS EBY, their grave stones do not bear the family name spelled EBY, nor are the family names of father and son spelled alike. The first of these two men was buried as DAVID DAVIS EBI, and his son was buried as PETER EBIE. THEODORUS EBY was the grandfather of DAVID DAVIS EBI, and the great grandfather of PETER EBIE. The graves of DAVID DAVIS EBI and his son PETER EBIE are near each other in the Old Cemetery mentioned above, and are in the end of the cemetery nearest Canton, Ohio.

DIRECTORY OF CEMETERY, CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN, NEMISHILLEN TOWNSHIP, STARK COUNTY, OHIO, EBI and EBIE FAMILIES ONLY.

EBI, David Davis, d. December 20, 1823, age 81 years, 11 months, 20 days.

This is the David Davis Eby whose biography is given on page 49, History of the Eby Family, by Ezra Eby. He was a son of David Eby and grandson of Theodorus Eby. He is designated in the Genealogical Charts as David Davis Eby—Ebi, (1742-1823).

EBIE, Peter, d. July 31, 1853, age 66 years, 4 months, 8 days.

EBIE, Christina, wife of Peter Ebie, d. March 12, 1855, aged 70 years, 10 months 18 days.

This is the Peter Eby mentioned on page 55 of History of the Eby Family, by Ezra Eby, and the Peter Ebie mentioned on Page 2 of Record of the Ebie Family, by George Ebie. He was a son of David Davis Eby-Ebi (1742-1823), and grandson of David Eby, and great grandson of Theodorus Eby. He is designated in the Genealogical Charts as Peter Ebi-Ebie (1787-1853).

EBIE, Susan, daughter of Daniel and Hannah Ebie, d. November 22, 1861, aged 8 years, 6 months, 4 days.

EBIE, Lovina, daughter of J. and M. Ebie, d. April 30, 1851, age 5 months, 12 days.

EBIE, Christina, daughter of J. and M. Ebie, d. December 25, 1845, age 9 days.

EBIE, Israel, d. December 15, 1882, aged 28 years, 7 months, 3 days.

EBIE, John, d. January 1, 1902, aged 87 years, 5 months, 23 days.

EBIE, Margaret, d. June 10, 1884, aged 64 years, 10 days.

This John Ebie, eldest son of Peter Ebi-Ebie (1787-1853) was a great-great-grandson of Theodorus Eby. He is described on page 56, History of the Eby Family, by Ezra Eby, and on pages 3 and 4 of Record of the Ebie Family, by George Ebie.

EBIE, Daniel, d. November 9, 1896, aged 80 years, 3 months, 2 days.

EBIE, Hannah, wife of Daniel Ebie d. February 7, 1887, aged 64 years, 11 months, 25 days.

This Daniel Ebie is described as Daniel Eby on page 56, History of the Eby Family, by Ezra Eby.

EBIE, William, 1861-1920.

EBIE, Sarah, 1865- .

EBIE, Peter W., 1845-1907.

EBIE, Samuel, 1854- .

EBIE, Nancy, 1861-1920.

EBIE, Daniel F., 1839-1916.

EBIE, Lavina, 1845-1915.

EBIE, Effie May, 1885-1900.

ANNOUNCEMENT

A Biography of THEODORUS EBY (1663-about 1732) based upon original European and Colonial records and documents, is now in preparation by European members of our family in collaboration with the present writer, FRANKLIN STANTON ABY. Consequently the acount of his long and troubled journey from Canton Zurich, Switzerland, to Earl Township, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, will be reserved for future publication.

The Biography of his youngest son, DAVID EBY, and of his grandson DAVID DAVIS EBY-EBI (1742-1823), as given in History of the Eby Family, 1889, By EZRA EBY, are here reproduced by photographic process.

THE RECORD OF THE EBIE FAMILY, by GEORGE EBIE, of OLNEY, ILLINOIS, contains the record of Two Hundred Fifty-Seven descendants of PETER EBY EBIE (1787-1853). It does not fall within the scope of this series of Bulletins of the EBY FAMILY to duplicate the work done by other members of the family. A copy of THE RECORD OF THE EBIE FAMILY has been presented by FRANKLIN STANTON ABY, M.D., to NEWBERRY LIBRARY, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, and also other publications containing information on the EBY FAMILY and its various branches.

The Descendants of David Eby[2].

DAVID EBY[2], youngest son of old THEODORUS EBY[1] (see page 5), was born in May, 1701. He was a lad of sixteen years of age when he came with his father to America. He learned the carpenter trade in his young days, but in after years he followed that of blacksmithing and farming.—He was married to an English girl (of Quaker descent) by the name of Maggie Davis.* They had a family of five children, two sons and three daughters. Two of the daughters died in infancy and the other was married to a Mr. Clemson, an Englishman. Of the two sons, Samuel Davis Eby[3] and David Davis Eby[3], we have a record of but David Davis[3].—Samuel Davis[3] left home and went West in 1763.* A year thereafter his parents received a letter from him in which he stated that he was well contented where he was and that he shall never return home again.

David Davis Eby[3] and his Descendants.

David Davis Eby[3] was born at Roland's Mills, near New Holland, and near the present line of Earl and Leacock Townships, in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, in the year 1742.* When but a young man he left home and went to Virginia, where he sojourned until the commencement of the Revolutionary War, in which he enlisted and remained a soldier until the war closed and the Independence of the Thirteen Colonies was established. After the close of the war he settled in Virginia. To whom he was married was not ascertained, but it is known that in the year 1807 two of his sons settled in Stark County, Ohio, to which place he followed them a few years later. He settled down near his sons and resided there until his death, which took place in 1823. This famous champion of Independence attained unto the advanced age of 81 years.† He had a family of six sons, namely: John[4], David[4], Peter[4], Henry[4], Thomas[4] and Joseph[4]. We have trace of some of the descendants of John[4], David[4] and Peter[4], but no record can be found of the others. We shall now take them in order according to their birth.

THEODORUS[1] EBY. Son of Bishop Jacob AEBI, Zurich, Switzerland.

B. April 25, 1663, in Canton Zurich, Switzerland.
M. ———— in Switzerland.
D. Prior to Feb. 20, 1734, in Lancaster County Pennsylvania.

M. ————
B. ————
D. ————
Father, ————
Mother, ————

EBY FAMILY

Name	Born	Died	Married	Spouse
Peter[2]	1690	About 1748		Barbara ————
John[2]				Unmarried
George[2]		Before 1760	About 1738	Barbara ————
Christian[2]	Feb. 12, 1689	Sept. 15, 1756		Elizabeth Mayer
Jacob[2]				
Barbara Bare[2]				
Barbara[2]				
Mary[2]				
Ann[2]				
David[2]	May —, 1701			Maggie Davis
Elizabeth[2]				Johannes Baehr

DAVID[2] EBY (Theodorus[1]).

B. May, 1701, in Switzerland.
M. ————
D. ————

M. Maggie (DAVIS)
B. ————
D. ————
Father, ————
Mother, ————

EBY FAMILY

Name	Born	Died	Married	Spouse
Samuel Davis[3]				
David Davis[3]	1742	1832		
Daughter[3]				———— Clemson
Daughter[3]				
Daughter[3]				

DAVID DAVIS[3] EBY—EBI (David[2], Theodorus[1]).

B. Jan. 1, 1742, at Rolands Mill, Earl Township, Lancaster County, Penna.
M. ————
D. Dec. 20, 1823, Buried in Brethren Cemetery, Nimshillen Township, Stark County, Ohio.

M. ————
B. ————
D. ————
Father, ————
Mother, ————

EBI FAMILY

Name	Born	Died	Married	Spouse
John[4]				
David[4]	1783	1861	1808	Catherine Leezer
Peter[4] Ebie	Mar. 23, 1787	July 31, 1855	July 15, 1811	Christena Markley
Henry[4]				
Thomas[4]				

DAVID[4] EBI (David Davis[3] EBY—EBI, David[2], Theodorus[1]).

B. ———. 1783, in Virginia.
M. ———. 1808, in Stark County, Ohio.
D. ———, 1861, in Stark County, Ohio.

M. Catherine (LEEZER).
B. ————
D. ————
Father. ————
Mother. ————

EBI FAMILY

Name	Born	Died	Married	Spouse
Levi[5]	April 21, 1809	April —, 1850	July 7, 1831	Susan Koontz
Delilah[5]	Mar. 27, 1815			
Rhoda[5]	Nov. 22, 1816	1845		
Reuben[5]	Dec. 16, 1818	Feb. 24, 1889	1883	Maria Killinger
Peter[5]	Oct. 26, 1821		1852	Anna Hershberger
Rachel[5]	Oct. 1, 1825			

LEVI[5] EBI. (David[4], David Davis[3] EBY—EBI, David[2], Theodorus[1]).

B. April 21, 1809 in Stark County, Ohio.
M. July 7, 1831.
D. April —, 1850, near Canton, Ohio.

M. Susan (KOONTZ).
B. ————
D. ————
Father. ————
Mother. ————

EBI FAMILY

Name	Born	Died	Married	Spouse
Sarah Ann[6]				E. H. Shider
Rachel[6]				Benjamin Shidler
Edward[6]				
Monroe[6]			Dec. 25, 1866	Frances Maria Raff

MONROE[6] EBI (LEVI[5], David[4], David Davis[3] EBY—EBI, David[2], Theodorus[1]).

B. ————, 1842, in Canton, Ohio.
M. Dec. 25, 1866
D. ————

M. Frances Maria (RAFF).
B. ———. 1843, in Canton, Ohio.
D. ————
Father. ————
Mother. ————

EBI FAMILY

Name	Born	Died	Married	Spouse
Helen Eliz.[7]	May 9, 1869			
Albert Raff[7]	Oct. 20, 1870			

PETER[4] EBI—EBIE (David Davis[3] EBY—EBI, David[2], Theodorus[1])
B. March 23, 1787, in Virginia.
M. July 15, 1811, in Stark County, Ohio.
D. July 31, 1855, Buried Brethren Cemetery, Nemishillen Township, Stark County, Ohio.

M. Christina (MARKLEY)
B. December 2, 1784, in Stark County, Ohio.
D. March 12, 1855, Buried in Brethren Cemetery, Stark County, Ohio.

Father, ————
Mother, ————

EBIE FAMILY

Name	Born	Died	Married	Spouse
Elizabeth[5]	July 8, 1814			Israel Fausnacht
John[5]	Aug. 2, 1812	Jan. 1, 1902	Oct. 8, 1838	Margaret Hossler
Daniel[5]	Aug. 7, 1816	Nov. 9, 1896		Hannah Ruff
Christena[5]	Dec. 13, 1821			Daniel Rupart
Catherine[5]	June 29, 1825			

JOHN[5] EBIE (Peter[4] EBI—EBIE, David Davis[3] EBY—EBI, David[2], Theodorus[1]).
B. July 8, 1814
M. Oct. 8, 1838
D. Jan. 1, 1902, Buried Brethren Cemetery, Nemishillen Township Stark County, Ohio.

M. Margaret (HOSSLER).
B. May 31, 1820, in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania.
D. June 10, 1884, Burried in Brethren Cemetery, Stark County, Ohio.

Father, ————
Mother, ————

EBIE FAMILY

Name	Born	Died	Married	Spouse
Daniel F.[6]	July 24, 1839	1916	Dec. 15, 1882	Lovina Showalder
Levi L.[6]	Aug. 24, 1840	June 28, 1912	Jan. 16, 1920	Elizabeth Cripe
Prescilla[6]	Sept. 10, 1841	Nov. 20, 1906	Dec. 25, 1866	Alexander Dunlap
John H.[6]	Mar. 20, 1843	Sept. 1, 1891	Sept. 27, 1874	Mary Spraukle
Peter W.[6]	Oct. 11, 1844	Dec. 13, 1907	Mar. 14, 1869	Elizabeth Martin
George[6]	Dec. 16, 1845		Sept. 23, 1875	Mary Slicken Myer
Christena[6]	Dec. 16, 1845	Dec. 25, 1845		
Harriet[6]	Sept. 12, 1847		Mar. 5, 1899	Isaac Brubaugh
Hiram[6]	July 24, 1849		Dec. 1, 1872	Lovina Young
Lovina[6]	Nov. 11, 1851	April 30, 1851		
Lucetta[6]	July 27, 1853		Feb. 12, 1891	Peter Slusser
Israel[6]	May 12, 1854	May 12, 1863	Oct. 24, 1878	Elizabeth Kurtz
Infant[6]	May 12, 1854		Nov. 4, 1873	Israel Royer
Isabel[6]				
Franklin[6]	June 25, 1859		Dec. 28, 1882	Martha Kinsley
William[6]	July 8, 1861	May 21, 1868	Dec. 24, 1882	Sarah Carper
Infant[6]				
Reuben[6]	Mar. 23, 1864		Nov. 25, 1883	Celesta Gehman

PETER W.[6] EBIE (John [5], Peter[4] EBI—EBIE, David Davis[3] EBY—EBI) David[2], Theodorus[1]).

B. Oct. 11, 1844, in Stark County, Ohio.
M. May 14, 1869
D. Dec. 13, 1907. Buried Brethren Cemetery, Nemishillen Township, Stark County, Ohio.

M. Elizabeth (MARTIN).
B. Sept. 6, 1843, in Wayne County, Ohio.
D. ————

Father. ————
Mother. ————

EBIE FAMILY

Name	Born	Died	Married	Spouse
Harvey M.[7]	Mar. 8, 1870	July 20, 1915	Mar. 26, 1898	Florence Jacobs
Sarah M.[7]	Jan. 3, 1872		Dec. 25, 1900	Franklin Correll
Anna M.[7]	July 16, 1874		Oct. 2, 1894	Monroe Slater
John L.[7]	Oct. 28, 1876		Dec. 17, 1907	Mollie Smith
Hattie M.[7]	Dec. 30, 1878			
J. M.[7]	Aug. 27, 1885	Sept. 8, 1885		
H. Jay[7]	Oct. 12, 1894			

JOHN L.[7] EBIE (Peter W.[6], John[5], Peter[4] EBI—EBIE, David Davis[3] EBY—EBI, David[2], Theodorus[1]).

B. Oct. 28, 1876, in Wayne County, Ohio.
M. Dec. 17, 1907
D. ————.

M. Mollie (SMITH)
B. Dec. 31, 1888, in Smith, Kansas.
D. ————

Father. ————
Mother. ————

EBIE FAMILY

Name	Born	Died	Married	Spouse
J.[8]	Feb. 12, 1908	Feb. 16, 1908		
Grace M.[8]	June 1, 1909			
Pearl E.[8]	Aug. 14, 1911			
Galen F.[8]	Jan. 18, 1914			
J. Leanord[8]	Jan. 1, 1916			

In the present report, attention is directed to certain facts not unusual among many pioneer Swiss and German families of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, regarding the change of spelling of a famly name. In the present case the spelling is changed three times in four consecutive generations. Stated otherwise, there are four different spellings in five generations.

The grandfather of THEODORUS EBY (1663- about 1732) was that DORSZ AEBI mentioned by the historian, EARNST MÜLLER of Langnau, Switzerland, Geschicte der Bernischen Täufer, 1895, on Page 144. This DORSZ AEBI is referred to by our own historian, H. FRANK ESHLEMAN, of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, Historic Background. Swiss and German Pioneers, 1917, on page 110. "DOERS AEBY is an early form of our familiar name TORIS or THEODORUS EBY." H. FRANK ESHLEMAN recognizes that DORSZ is but a nickname of THEODORUS, and that AEBI is the former Swiss spelling of EBY. Both conclusions are correct.

This DORSZ AEBI, grandfather of THEORDORUS EBY (1663- about 1732) was condemned by the gentle and pious Zwinglian Lutherans of Zurich to become an outcast, to be shunned by all good people, to be banished, to be branded with hot iron if caught, because he was a Mennonite or Swiss Quaker,' in other words a Noncomformist.

The son of this DORSZ AEBI was the JACOB AEBI mentioned by ERNST MÜLLER, Geschicte Der Bernischen Täufer, on page 209. This JACOB AEBI was ordained Bishop of the Swiss Mennonites in 1683, in the midst of great religious turmoil, when the holding of such an office among the Mennonites of Switzerland meant certain banishment or death at the hands of the officials of Berne and Zurich, controlled by the Zwinglian Lutherans. This JACOB AEBI is the BISHOP JACOB EBY mentioned on pages 4 and 5, History of the Eby Family, by EZRA EBY, as being the father of THEODORUS EBY (1663- about 1732).

The youngest son of THEODORUS EBY (1663- about 1732) spelled his name DAVID EBY. But the son of DAVID EBY spelled his name DAVID DAVIS EBI, and is designated in the genealogical charts as DAVID DAVIS EBY-EBI (1742-1823). Buried in the same cemetery a few feet from DAVID DAVIS EBY-EBI (1742-1823), is his son. PETER EBIE, and he is designated in the genealogical charts as PETER EBI-EBIE (1787-1853).

DAVID DAVIS EBY-EBI (1742-1823) is the progenitor of the AMERICAN EBI FAMILY of Stark County, Ohio. PETER EBI-EBIE (1787-1853) is the progenitor of the AMERICAN EBIE FAMILY of Stark County, Ohio. But THEODORUS EBY (1663- about 1732) of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania was the grandfather of DAVID DAVIS EBY-EBI (1742-1823) and the great grandfather of PETER EBI-EBIE (1787-1853). Therefore the EBI FAMILY and the EBIE FAMILY of Stark County, Ohio, are the progeny of THEODORUS EBY (1663- about 1732).

QUOD ERAT DEMONSTRANDUM.

SUPPLEMENT.

Having presented the evidence upon which the main proposition is based, the relation of that proposition to certain broader propositions should be presented at this time and place, in logical sequence. The attention of the reader is directed to the sequence of family names in Europe and America by presenting an agnate line. Six successive generations are shown in the following table, Theodorus being substituted for the nickname DORSZ.

THEODORUS AEBI
BISHOP JACOB AEBI
THEODORUS EBY (1663- about 1732)
DAVID EBY (1701-)
DAVID DAVIS EBI (1742-1823)
PETER EBIE (1787-1853)

There are four ways of spelling the family name in five generations.

The testimony of the rocks, that of Lancaster County Histories, and that of the Court House records of Lancaster and Chester Counties, Pennsylvania, becomes of intense interest to members of the family, when considered in its relation to the facts heretofore presented.

Three miles north of Lititz, on Hammer Creek, Elizabeth Township, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, on the opposite side of the creek from the big stone mill owned in 1923 by MR. SNAVELY, stands a large stone mansion erected by BISHOP CHRISTIAN EBY (1734-1807), grandson of THEODORUS EBY (1663- about 1732). In the front wall of this colonial mansion, above the porch, is included a stone taken for a previous stone house erected by CHRISTIAN EBI (1698-1756), the son of THEODORUS EBY (1663 about 1732) and the father of BISHOP CHRISTIAN EBY (1734-1807). This stone, by all the rules of Archeology an authentic and genuine historic document, bears this inscription

CHRISTIAN EBI
ELISABETHA
1754

This stone and inscription are referred to on page 6, History of the Eby Family, 1889, by Ezra Eby, with incorrect spelling.

My relative who reported this matter to EZRA EBY was evidently unaware of his European antecedents, or of the existence in Europe of a distinct EBI FAMILY, or of the existence in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Oklahoma and the Pacific Coast of a distinct AMERICAN EBI FAMILY. The most curious fact in this discussion is that the EBI FAMILY of Stark County, Ohio, is not descended from this man who, according to the testimony of the rock, spelled his name CHRISTIAN EBI. His genealogical position will be elucidated on a subsequent page.

Ellis and Evans, 1883, History of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, page 1072, called attention to the spelling of the name of GEORGE EBI, son of THEODORUS EBY (1663- about 1732) as preserved in the building at Millway, Warwick Township, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. Thus two sons of THEODORUS EBY (1663- about 1732) themselves spelled their own names respectively CHRISTIAN EBI and GEORGE EBI, according to the Archeological evidence at this date, 1923, still available.

In the Court House at Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, is the record of the Court of Quarter Sessions for May 1st, 1733, page 66, this same son of THEODORUS EBY (1663-1732) has his name spelled by the British official, GEORGE ABI. Not only is this Philological evidence, but to members of the various groups of American families descended from THEODORUS EBY (1663-1732), this fact and other similar facts constitute uncontrovertable phonetic evidence that in Colonial times our family name was pronounced in America by THEODORUS EBY and his sons, just as the ABY FAMILY of the Mississippi Valley and the Pacific Coast, and the EABY FAMILY of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, still pronounce their family name. Consult Funk & Wagnall's Standard Dictionary of the English Language, CHRISTOPHER THEODORUS ABY (1835-1885) for pronunciation.

In the Court House at West Chester, Pennsylvania, among Original Road Papers, Volume 2, Page 6, is a report of a road surveyed August 23, 24, 25, 26, 1726, passing TORIS EBIS mill. H. FRANK ESHLEMAN, 1917, Historic Background, Swiss and German Pioneers, page 206, identifies TORIS and DORIS as nicknames for THEODORUS, and EBI as equivalent to EBY. Therefore TORIS EBIS mill was the mill of THEODORUS EBY (1663-1732).

PROFESSOR OSCAR KUHNS, Professor of Romance Languuages in Wesleyan University, Middletown, Connecticut, in his article, "Studies in Pennsylvania Swiss and German Names," Americana Germania, Volume 4, page 328, is certainly correct in his statement that EBY=EBI. This phonetic and philiological statement holds true as to European distinct though related families, as well as among American distinct though related families.

This is a very limited presentation of a much wider subject, but will serve to demonstrate the relationship existing among several distinct though related European and American families, the AMERICAN EBI FAMILY, the AMERICAN EBY FAMILY, the AMERICAN EBIE FAMILY, the EUROPEAN AEBI FAMILY, and the EUROPEAN EBI FAMILY, with THEODORUS EBY, (1663-1732) as the bridge between several distinct though related European families, and several distinct though related American families.

We have mentioned BISHOP CHRISTIAN EBY (1734-1807) and his father, CHRISTIAN EBI (1698-1756). The student of heredity will find much of interest in the following historical facts. Let us begin with BISHOP JACOB AEBI, who undertook the duties and responsibilities of Bishop of the Swiss Mennonites or Swiss Quakers in 1683, when the election to such an office meant certain banishment or death. The trials and viscissitudes of his son, THEODORUS EBY, (1663-1732), his persecution and banishment, his wanderings and final mooring at EBY'S, ROLAND'S, now HOOVER'S MILL, Earl Township, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, will be dealt with in another publication. His son CHRISTIAN EBI (1698-1756) built a mill on Hammer Creek at the mill site now occupied by the mill of MR. SNAVELY. His son, BISHOP CHRISTIAN EBY (1734-1807) built the existing colonial stone mansion which bears the stone inscribed

CHRISTIAN EBI, ELISABETHA, 1754.

BISHOP CHRISTIAN EBY had two extraordinary sons, BISHOP PETER EBY (1765-1843) and the CANADIAN BISHOP BENJAMIN EBY (1785-1853). BISHOP PETER EBY (1765-1843) had a son named PETER EBY (1791-1855), whose son was BISHOP ISAAC EBY (1834-1910). These were ordained bishops in the Mennonite or Swiss Quaker Church in Canton Zurich Switzerland, or Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, or Waterloo County, Canada. Consult Mennonite Church History, 1905. HARTZLER and KAUFFMAN. Scottdale, Pennsylvania, page 176 "THEODORUS EBY came to America and settled in Lancaster County. His grandson, CHRISTIAN EBY, was a Bishop of the Mennonite Church and faced the trials of Revolutionary times. PETER EBY, son of CHRISTIAN EBY and first Bishop in the Strasburg District, was one of the most conspicuous characters of the church of his day. ISAAC EBY of Kinzers, is now filling the office so long and ably filled by his worthy grandfather." These historians have this to say, on page 176, as to BISHOP PETER EBY (1765-1843). "He was one of the most eloquent ministers ever ordained in the Mennonite Church. He held his congregation spellbound and profoundly impressed all who heard him preach." And on page 240, regarding his brother, BISHOP BENJAMIN EBY (1785-1853). "In 1806 BENJAMIN EBY, the most noted among the early Mennonite Bishops in Canada, settled with the colony in Waterloo County."

This BISHOP BENJAMIN EBY (1785-1853), gifted alike with tongue and pen, in 1841 wrote a Mennonite Church History, KURZGEFASZTE KIRCHENGESCHICTE UND GLAUBENSLEHRE DER TAUFGESINNTEN ODER MENNONITEN. "This was practically the first unbiased historical sketch of the Mennonites that was written by an American author" declares another Mennonite historian, C. HENRY SMITH. 1909, The Mennonites of America, page 431. This history written by BISHOP BENJAMIN EBY (1785-1853), in 1841, has passed through many editions, today enjoys a large sale, and is today a most valued school book on church history, not only for the Mennonites or Swiss Quakers, followers of MENNO SIMON (1492-1559), but for their still more ancient predecessors, the Pre-Reformation Protestants known by the Italians as VALDESI, by the French as VAUDOIS, by the Germans as WALDENSES, followers of PETER WALDO (-1217). These in mediaeval times and for at least three hundred years preceding the Reformation were Protestants or Nonconformist inhabitants of the Italian valleys of the Piedmont, known to historians as the VALLEYS OF THE VALDESI (ITALIAN), VOUDOIS (FRENCH), or WALDENSES(GERMAN), on the south eastern slope of the Alps separating Italy and France.

The progeny of the Swiss Mennonite Bishop, JACOB AEBI, has supplied the Mennonite Church of America with many preachers besides the bishops already mentioned. Does this mean anything to the student of heredity? Be it remembered that a cognate line is just as potent in the transmission of hereditary tendencies as an agnate line. Many bearing the name HERSHEY, BRUBAKER, HERR LANDIS, LEHMAN, ROHRER, MILLER, NISSLEY, AESCHLEMAN, BOEHM, MARTIN, FUNK, ERB, BAER and scores of other family names, are just as truly descendents of BISHOP JACOB AEBI as you or the present writer, who bear his family name.

The Mennonite Church does not include all the American Bishops and preachers descended from BISHOP JACOB AEBI . The Church of the Brethren numbers the EBY FAMILY among its greatest leaders. A biography of BISHOP ENOCH EBY (1828-1910) of Stevenson County, Illinois, published by the Brethren Publishing House at Elgin, Illinois, in 1911, written by BISHOP DANIEL LONG MILLER, has this to say on page 11. "As a minister, he ranked, in his prime, among the very best pulpit orators in the church. How well I remember how his eloquence thrilled me when I first heard him preach fifty years ago." And on page 9, three remarkable sons of BISHOP ENOCH EBY (1828-1910) are mentioned, BISHOP DAVID BOWMAN EBY (1851-) of the State of Washington, BISHOP LEVI HOWE EBY (1858-) of the State of Idaho and the REVEREND JOHN GLUCK EBY (1845-) of Kansas, whose son ENOCH HOWE EBY (1877-) is a missionary of the Church of the Brethren in Bulsar, India, Asia. BISHOP ENOCH EBY (1828-1910) is buried in Chelsea Brethren Cemetery, Joe Davies County, Illinois, near his father JACOB EBY (1798-1856). The genealogy of the Asiatic missionary ENOCH HOWE EBY (1877-), tracing his lineage to BISHOP JACOB AEBI, of Zurich, Switzerland, is as follows:

THEODORUS AEBI
BISHOP JACOB AEBI
THEODORUS EBY (1663- about 1732)
PETER EBY (1690- about 1748)
JACOB EBY (1728-1794)
BENJAMIN EBY (1767-1850)
JACOB EBY (1798-1856)
BISHOP ENOCH EBY (1828-1910)
REVEREND JOHN GLUCK EBY (1848-)
MISSIONARY ENOCH HOWE EBY (1877-)
ENOCH HERBERT EBY (1911-)

Of these the first five generations were strict Mennonites. BENJAMIN EBY (1767-1850) joined the Dunkard, Brethren, or German Baptists (History of the Eby Family. 1889, EZRA EBY, page 110). The large colonial brick mansion which BENJAMIN EBY (1767-1850) built on his four hundred acre plantation in PATH VALLEY, FRANKLIN COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, still in splendid condition, has the upper story arranged with sliding doors to be thrown into one large room for the weekly meetings of the Dunkards of that vicinity. The next five generations belong to the Church of the Brethren.

Nor is this list of Bishops descendents from BISHOP JACOB AEI complete. More than twice as many American Bishops in various denominations can trace their lineage to this Swiss Bishop, JACOB AEBI. A long list of earnest and forceful preachers, his progeny, has been compiled by the present writer. And of teachers, college professors, university professors, a much longer list has been compiled.

Are piety, goodness, eloquence, the love of learning and of teaching hereditary?

FRANKLIN STANTON ABY, M D.

1625003

BISHOP CHRISTIAN[3] (Christian[2], Theodorus[1]).

B. Feb. 22. 1734
M. ————
D. Sept. 14. 1807, Buried in Family Grave Yard, Hammer Creek, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania.

Catherin (BRICKER)
B. ————
D. ————
Father, ————
Mother, ————

EBY FAMILY

Name	Born	Died	Married	Spouse
Elizabeth[4]	Mar. 13. 1762	Aug. 19. 1832		Joseph Bucher
Christian[4]	Oct. 16. 1763	Aug. 27. 1824		Veronica Hershey
Bishop Peter[4]	Oct. 14. 1765	April 6. 1843		Margaretta Hess
John[4]	Oct. 23. 1767	May 25. 1845		Mary Witwer
Andrew[4]	Oct. 27. 1769	May 12. 1809		Elizabeth Stauffer
Catherine[4]	Oct. 30. 1771	Mar. 4. 1856		Abram Barkholder
Barbara[4]	April 27. 1774	Mar. 13. 1843		Joseph Schneider
Anna[4]	Sept. 9. 1777	April 25. 1829		Jacob Wissler
George[4]	Sept. 30. 1779	Mar. 13. 1793		
Maria[4]	Nov. 4. 1781	April 9. 1783		
Bishop				First, M. Brubacher
Benjamin[4]	May 2. 1785	June 28. 1853		Second, M. Erb
Maria[4]	Oct. 12. 1787	April 16, 1864		Jacob Brubacker

BISHOP PETER[4] (Bishop Christian[3], Christian[2] Theodorus[1])

B. Oct. 14. 1765.
M. July 1788
D. April 6. 1843

M. Margaretta (HESS)
B. Oct. 7. 1764
D. Feb. 14. 1846
Father, ————
Mother, ————

EBY FAMILY

Name	Born	Died	Married	Spouse
Petre[5]	April 5. 1791	Sept. 13. 1855		Elizabeth Weaver
Susan[5]	May 7. 1793	Aug. 10. 1879		David Hoover
Christian[5]	Aug. 27. 1795	Feb. 5. 1877		Rebecca Witwer
Barbara[5]	Aug. 28. 1799	Feb. 3. 1865		John Stauffer
Anna[5]	Dec. 15. 1800	Feb. 29. 1896		Abraham Hershey
John[5]	Mar. 12. 1802	Sept. 6. 1847		Anna Roop
Henry[5]	July 11. 1804	Nov. 1, 1888		Susan Sensenig
Elizabeth[5]	June 12. 1807	May 31. 1897		Jacob Hershey
Maria[5]	April 20, 1809	Feb. 13. 1888		Daniel Wanner

THE SWISS EBY FAMILY

Pioneer Millwrights and Millers

of

LANCASTER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

THE EBY FAMILY BULLETIN

Number Two

By FRANKLIN STANTON ABY, M. D.

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

1924

Colonial Documentary History

of

THEODORUS EBY

(His Relatives and Descendants)

The Swiss Mennonite Pioneer

of

LANCASTER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

THE EBY FAMILY BULLETIN

Number Three

By FRANKLIN STANTON ABY, M. D.

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

1924

THE ABY FAMILY

of Peoria County, Illinois

THE EABY FAMILY

of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania

Progeny of

THEODORUS EBY

The Swiss Mennonite Pioneer

of

LANCASTER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

THE EBY FAMILY BULLETIN

Number Four

By FRANKLIN STANTON ABY, M. D.
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

1924

NICKOLAUS EBI-EBY (1825-1898)

of

SHEBOYGAN COUNTY, WISCONSIN

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

GREAT GREAT GRAND NEPHEW

of

THEODORUS EBY

The Swiss Mennonite Pioneer

of

LANCASTER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

THE EBY FAMILY BULLETIN

Number Five

By FRANKLIN STANTON ABY, M. D.

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